

Janie A. Miller Commissioner

PO Box 517 Frankfort, KY 40602-0517

(502) 564-3630 (800) 595-6053 (800) 462-2081 TDD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 11, 2003

CONTACT FOR MEDIA: Ronda Sloan 502-564-6098 (office) or 502-330-1804 (cell)

## Department of Insurance Fraud Unit Seeks Public's Help in Locating Fugitive

FRANKFORT, Ky -- The Fraud Investigation Division of the Kentucky Department of Insurance is looking for the public's help in locating a Bowling Green resident wanted on charges of theft by failure to make required disposition of property valued over \$300.

Robert M. Howard Jr., 42, was indicted by a Warren County grand jury on March 19, 2003. His last known address was 4726 E. Main St., Bowling Green. According to the indictment, Howard allegedly obtained approximately \$7,700 from his employees through payroll deduction for health insurance premiums and failed to make the required payment to Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield on the employees' behalf.

There is an outstanding warrant for Howard's arrest. Anyone with information on his whereabouts should call the Insurance Fraud Investigation Division at 502-564-1461.

An indictment represents a criminal charge and the person is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

The Coalition Against Insurance Fraud estimates that insurance fraud costs consumers at least \$80 billion each year.

